



**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
AMONG
THE NATIONAL IMAGERY AND MAPPING AGENCY,
THE U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY,
AND
THE FEDERAL GEOGRAPHIC DATA COMMITTEE
PERTAINING TO
GEOSPATIAL INFORMATION FOR HOMELAND SECURITY**

1. **PURPOSE.** This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) describes the partnership and responsibilities of the participating organizations to create and maintain geospatial information needed to support homeland security.

The participating organizations include the National Imagery and Mapping Agency (NIMA), Department of Defense; the United States Geological Survey (USGS), Department of the Interior; and the Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC). This MOU describes how these organizations will cooperate to create and provide a compatible and complementary, nationally consistent set of geospatial data and information for homeland security. The intersection of USGS' domestic mission for mapping, NIMA's mission in support of national security objectives, and FGDC's role in developing geospatial standards makes the USGS-NIMA-FGDC partnership critical to providing comprehensive geospatial information to the federal, state, local and military organizations responsible for homeland security missions.

2. **AUTHORITIES.** This MOU applies to geospatial information for homeland security covering the United States, including U.S. territories. The provisions of the MOU are in accordance with the U.S. Economy Act 31 U.S.C. § 1535, OMB Circulars A-16, A-25, A-119, and A-130, and Executive Order 12906. As members of the FGDC, both NIMA and USGS will ensure that the coordination of geographic information and related spatial data activities conducted under this MOU are consistent with, and in support of, the responsibilities and reporting requirements assigned to NIMA and USGS by OMB Circular A-16. In addition, this MOU will be implemented in accordance with Executive Order 12333, which regulates the Intelligence Community's collection, retention and dissemination of information on U.S. persons.
3. **SCOPE.** Geospatial information is the critical foundation for many aspects of homeland security, such as:

- A. Emergency preparedness, and disaster response and recovery;

- B. Modeling, simulation and analysis of chemical, biological, radiological, or nuclear attacks and critical infrastructure vulnerability;
- C. Airport and border security operations; and
- D. Military operations readiness and assuredness.

Geospatial information facilitates multi-source information sharing and integration across agencies and organizations by providing a common framework upon which other information is tied.

This MOU establishes the partnership through which this geospatial foundation will be achieved. It applies to the acquisition and provision of geospatial information, data, and other products and services among USGS, NIMA, and FGDC in support of homeland security. It complements Annex C of the umbrella MOU between USGS and NIMA for Coordination and Cooperation in Geospatial Data and Remote Sensing, dated August 27, 1998, and revised on February 12, 1999.

- 4. **RESPONSIBILITIES.** The partnership among USGS, NIMA and FGDC is enabled through the responsibilities that the organizations share, or contribute toward the common goal of providing geospatial information for homeland security.

A. The shared responsibilities include:

- 1. Establishing and maintaining a program to provide geospatial information for homeland security that is within the budget constraints of the organizations. A Steering Group comprised of one senior leader from each organization shall oversee and approve the program and associated plans. Bi-annual status meetings of the Steering Group will monitor the progress of the program. The Steering Group also may form working groups as necessary.
- 2. Coordinating each agency's plan to acquire and provide geospatial data, information, and services for homeland security.
- 3. Providing and disseminating geospatial data services, enabled through interoperable standards, to customers at the federal, state and local levels consistent with legal and policy authorities of each organization.
- 4. Acquiring, operating and maintaining the system capabilities necessary for a homeland security geospatial information architecture.
- 5. Contributing to the development of homeland security geospatial standards.

B. The responsibilities of NIMA include:

- 1. Maintaining and providing the national critical infrastructure layer of the homeland security data not available in *The National Map*, in accordance with the priorities identified in the Steering Group approved program and plans, and protecting these data from unauthorized users as necessary.

2. Acquiring, maintaining and disseminating geospatial critical infrastructure data through ties and partnerships with other federal, industrial and commercial data providers and users.
3. Providing services for data integration, information visualization, and situational awareness supporting homeland security planning and operations.
4. Supplementing *The National Map* through ties and contracts with Industry and other Defense organizations, and where appropriate making these data available to *The National Map*.

C. The responsibilities of USGS include:

1. Providing and maintaining the framework data that are part of *The National Map* and supportive USGS data resources in accordance with the priorities identified in the Steering Group approved program and plans.
2. Acquiring, maintaining and sharing geospatial data through ties and partnerships with other federal, state, local, tribal, and commercial data providers and users.
3. Provide services for data integration and information visualization for data that are part of *The National Map* and for supportive USGS data resources in support of homeland security.


D. The responsibilities of FGDC include:

1. Providing coordinating mechanisms and support in securing FGDC agency and non-federal input, as well as participation and partnerships to assist in assuring accessibility of data and information for homeland security.
2. Fostering interoperability of defense and civil geospatial data for homeland security.
3. Providing its Standards Development Process as a mechanism for developing needed data content, classification and management standards for homeland security.

5. **IMPLEMENTATION.** Implementation of this MOU shall be supported by annexes, which will be coordinated and approved through the Steering Group.
6. **FUNDING.** Cooperative activities under this MOU shall be subject to the availability of funds and/or resources. This MOU shall not be construed to obligate any particular expenditure or commitment of funds and/or resources. When appropriate, monies may be transferred between organizations in accordance with federal regulations.


7. **AGREEMENT PERIOD.** This MOU becomes effective on the date of the last signature. This MOU will be reviewed annually and may be modified in writing at any time by mutual consent. Any party may terminate this MOU after a 60-day notification in writing of the intent to terminate.


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Date: 5/6/02

Date: 13 JULY 2002


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